

THE PARISH OF THAMES

Welcomes you to

ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Sunday 23rd December 2018

The 4th Sunday in Advent

Call to Worship

E te whanau a te Karaiti, welcome to this holy table; welcome to you
for we are Christ's body, Christ's work in the world.

Welcome to you whose baptism makes you salt of the earth
and light to the world. Rejoice and be glad.

Praise God who gives us forgiveness and hope.

Amen. Christ is our light, and the joy of our salvation.

Candle lighting

We sing as the candle is lit

1. Light one candle for hope, one bright candle for hope.
He brings hope to every heart. He comes, He comes.
2. . . . peace
3. Light one candle for joy, one bright candle for joy
every nation will find salvation in Beth'lem's baby boy.
4. . . . love

Opening Hymn: On Jordan's Bank

Opening Prayer

Into this season of expectation
Into the bustle of our lives and the hard to find moments of solitude
Into our homes and situations along with friends and families
Into our hearts, and those often hidden parts of our lives
we prepare to welcome Christ Jesus. **Messiah**
Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Please sit or kneel

We come seeking forgiveness for all we have failed to be and do
as members of Christ's body.

Silence

In God there is forgiveness.

Loving and all seeing God,
forgive us where we Have failed to serve you;
and where our thoughts and actions have been contrary to yours
we ask your pardon.

God forgives us; be at peace.

Silence

We shall all be one in Christ, one in our life together.

Praise to God who has created us,
praise to God who has accepted us,
praise to God who sends us into the world.

Sentence Of The Day

Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment
of what was spoken to her by the Lord.

Luke 1:45

Collect of the Day

**God, faithful and true, make us eager with expectation, as we look for the
fulfilment of your promise in Jesus Christ our Saviour.**

Hear this prayer for your love's sake. Amen.

1st Reading:- Old Testament: Micah 5:2-5a

Raewyn Grey

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God

Psalm: 80: 1-7

1 Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth

2 before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.

Stir up Your might, and come to save us!

3 Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved.

4 O LORD God of hosts, how long will You be angry with Your people's prayers?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure.

**6 You make us the scorn of our neighbours; our enemies laugh
among themselves.**

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; let Your face shine, that we may be saved.

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen***

2nd Reading: - The Epistle/N T: Heb 10:5-10

Lyn Wilson

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn: And did you see him

3rd Reading: The Gospel/NT: Luke 1:39-45

Christine Neilson

This is the Gospel of Christ

Praise to Christ, the Word

Sermon:

The Rev'd Catherine Mackereth

Intercessions:

Christine Neilson

Then turn to service page 484 in your NZ prayer book

Offertory Hymn: Tell Out My Soul

Closing Hymn: Lo He Comes

Sending Forth: Go now to love and serve the Lord; go now in peace.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

1 On Jordan's Bank

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thy hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent doth thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

C. Coffin, J Chandler

A&M 27

3 Tell Out My Soul

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the
Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit
voice;
Tender to me the promise of His word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul,
the greatness of His name!
Make known his might,
the deeds His arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy name - the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness
of His might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills
are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of His word!
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and evermore!

2 And Did You See Him

And did you see him, little star,
long, long ago?
And was it you, I wonder,
shone on manger low?
And did you see the shepherd men
when angels sang?
'Peace on the earth, good will to all,'
the message rang.

And did you guide the three wise kings
with shining light?
And bring them to the holy child
on that great night?
And will you still shine down on earth,
though from afar,
and lead us back to Bethlehem,
O little star?

*©Music Colin Gibson;
Words Helen Clyde*

AA 4

4 Lo He Comes

Lo! He comes, with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of His train.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ appears on earth to reign.

Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him,
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold Him,
pierced, and nailed Him to the tree,
deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yes, amen! Let all adore Thee,
high on Thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the pow'r and glory,
claim the kingdom for Thine own:
Alleluia!
thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

*Charles Wesley (1707-88) &
John Cennick (1718-55)*

A&M 28

Ministry Team

Liturgist: Allan Judd **Server:** Margaret MacKay
Intercessor/Prayers: Christine Neilson **Organist:** Lynne Mounsey
President: The Rev'd Brendon Wilkinson **Preacher:** The Rev'd Catherine MacKereth
Sanctuary Guild: Anna Juby, Fiona Sayer
Welcome Team: Dorothy McRoberts, Denise Norris
Morning Tea: Lyn

Parish Community News

You will have noticed the paving joining the Community Hall with the Church is now finished.

The church had a lovely BBQ time together last Sunday after the service in the forecourt, in brilliant sunshine. Thank you to those who made it possible; for the food and drinks and for the fellowship enjoyed and mostly to our heavenly Father for His continued goodness to us.

Exploring prayer Tuesday 15th January, 12 noon, in the Meeting Room in the Hall.
All very welcome. For further information phone Jill McLeod, 8690284.

Prayer Needs

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning it's shame and sat down at the right hand of God." Hebrews 12:2

Please remember to pray for Ken and Marie Hayhurst, David Juby, Max & Viv Baggaley and Beth Philip.

This week 23rd-30th December

Wed: Selwyn Group, **NO GROUP MEETING** till 9th January.

Thurs: There will be 10am Holy Communion (1662), St George's Chapel

Office Open: Tues, Wed & Frid - 9am—1pm

The office will be closed from the week starting 24th December till 8th January.

Christmas Eve Service, 24th, 7:30, St George's Church

Christmas Eve MIDNIGHT SERVICE 12:00 Service, St George's Church

Christmas Day Service, 9:30, St. George's Church

Sun 30th, 9:30am service at St George's - NZ Eucharist

Te Puru Church, 30th December 9:30am.

Sunday 30th December

First Reading:	1 Sam 2:18-26	Denise Norris
Psalm:	148	
President:	The Rev'd Brendon Wilkinson	
Preacher:	The Rev'd Brendon Wilkinson	
Music Ministry/organist:	Stuart du Preez	
Intercessions:	Denise Norris	
Sanctuary Guild/Flowers:	TBA	
Morning Tea:	Margaret & Judy	
Welcome Team:	Christina Philip, Leslie Wilkinson, Kate Jones	

Vicar: The Rev'd Brendon Wilkinson.

Vicar's Warden: Kate Jones

Peoples Warden: Lynne Mounsey

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